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U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management Kremmling Field Office P.O. Box 68 Kremmling, CO 80459

## **CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION**

| A. Background        |                                      |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| BLM Office:Kremmling | Lease/Serial/Case File No.:COC-69311 |
|                      | and COC-8481                         |

Number: BLM-CO-120-2010-0054-CX

Proposed Action Title/Type: WAPA/Mountain Parks ROW Assignment

Location of Proposed Action: WAPA Power Line:

T. 1 N., R. 80 W., Section 13: Lot2

Section 14: \$1/2\$1/2 Section 15: \$1/2\$1/2 Section 16: \$F

Section 16: SE

Section 21: NWNE, NENW

Mountain Parks Power Line:

T. 8 N., R. 79 W., Sections 7, 18, 19, 30 & 31

T. 9 N., R. 79 W., Section 32

T. 6 N., R. 80 W., Sections 5, 6, & 7

T. 7 N., R. 80 W., Sections 1, 14, 15, 21, 22, 28, & 32

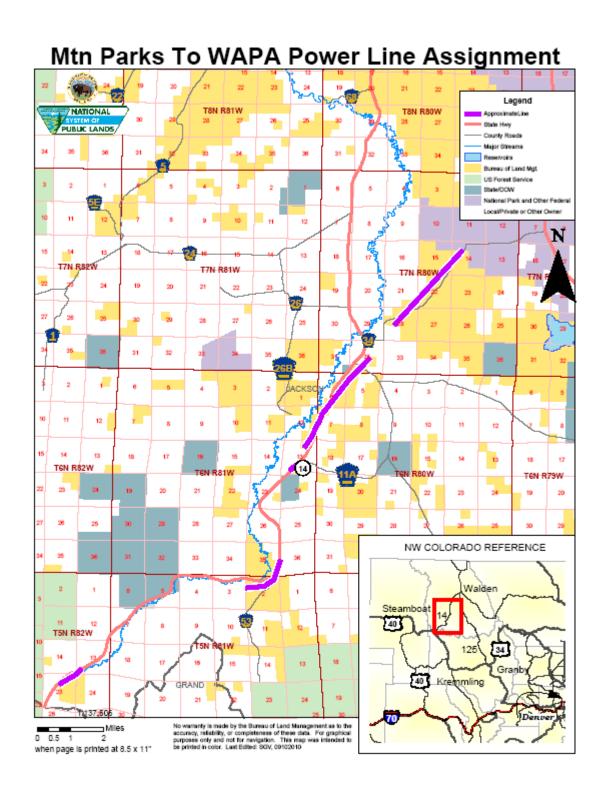
T. 5 N., R. 81 W., Sections 2, 4, 5, & 7 T. 6 N., R. 81 W., Sections 12, 13, & 35 T. 5 N., R. 82 W., Sections 23, & 24

Description of Proposed Action: Mountain Parks Electric Inc. and Western Area Power Administration have both applied for an assignment of ownership of two transmission lines. The ownership of the two lines would be switched.

WAPA currently has a ROW (COC-69311) for an overhead 12.5 kV power line, 30 feet wide and 2.5 miles long. This ROW is along Grand County road 33.

Mountain Parks currently has a ROW (COC-8481) for an overhead 69 kV power line, 50 feet wide and 13.4 miles long. This ROW crosses public land from Muddy Pass to Walden.

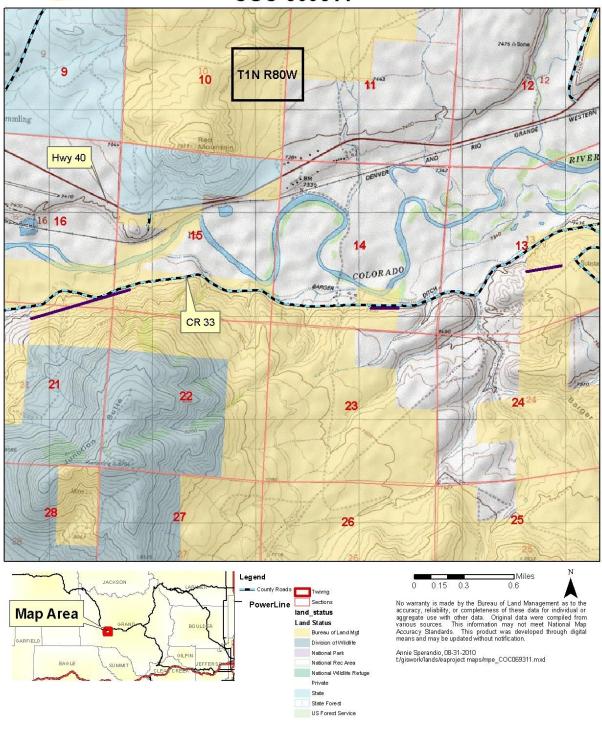
No other changes would be made to the right-of-way grants and no new ground disturbance would occur.





# WAPA Assignment to Mt. Parks COC-069311





#### **B.** Land Use Plan Conformance

Land Use Plan Name: Kremmling Resource Management Plan (RMP), Record of Decision (ROD)

Date Approved/Amended: December 19, 1984; Updated February 1999

The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable LUP because it is specifically provided for in the following LUP decisions(s):

Decision Number/Page: II-B-12 pg.14

<u>Decision Language</u>: Provide the opportunity to utilize public lands for development of facilities which benefit the public, while considering environmental and agency concerns.

#### C. Compliance with NEPA:

The Proposed Action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with 516 DM 11.0, E. (17).

"Renewals and assignments of leases, permits or rights-of-way where no additional rights are conveyed beyond those granted by the original authorizations."

This categorical exclusion is appropriate in this situation because there are no extraordinary circumstances potentially having effects that may significantly affect the environment. The proposed action has been reviewed, and none of the extraordinary circumstances described in 516 DM2 apply.

#### **INTERDISCIPLINARY REVIEW:**

| Name          | Title               | Area of           | Date Review |
|---------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------|
|               |                     | Responsibility    | Completed   |
| Bill Wyatt    | Archaeologist       | Archaeology       | 9/22/10     |
| Megan McGuire | Biologist           | Wildlife, T&E     | 9/22/10     |
| Paula Belcher | Hydrologist         | Soil, Air & Water | 10/25/2010  |
| Susan Cassel  | Asst. Field Manager | NEPA              | 10/26/2010  |

| D. | Signatu | ıre |
|----|---------|-----|
| ν. | Signatu | 116 |

| Authoriz | ing Official:/s/D | David Stout | _ Date: | 10/27/2010 |  |
|----------|-------------------|-------------|---------|------------|--|
|          |                   | (Signature) |         |            |  |
| Name:    | David Stout       |             |         |            |  |
| Title:   | Field Manager     |             |         |            |  |

### **Contact Person**

Annie Sperandio P O Box 68 Kremmling, CO 80459 970-724-3002

#### **DECISION RECORD**

**CX** # BLM-CO-120-2010-0054-CX

<u>DECISION</u>: It is my decision to authorize the Proposed Action as described in the attached CX.

This decision is in compliance with the Endangered Species Act, National Historic Preservation Act, and the Clean Water Act. This decision is also in conformance with the LUP and other applicable laws, regulations and policies.

This action is listed in the Department Manual as an action that may be categorically excluded. I have evaluated the action and have determined that it does not represent an extraordinary circumstance and is, therefore, categorically excluded from further environmental analysis.

<u>RATIONALE</u>: The proposed action to issue Mountain Parks Electric, Inc. and Western Area Power Administration assignments, for ownership of two transmission lines was chosen as no other changes or no new ground disturbance will be made to the right-of-way grants.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL: /s/ David Stout

DATE SIGNED: 10/27/2010